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explore,
enjoy,
and protect
the planet

Sierra Club Lake Group

November-December 2015 Newsletter

Next Meeting: “A Walk Through Time”

The next Lake Group general meeting will take place at **7PM on Wednesday November 18**, at the Lower Lake Methodist Church Community Room, 16255 Second Street in Lower Lake. We’re really excited to be able to feature a repeat screening of the award-winning documentary "A Walk Through Time, the Story of Anderson Marsh." When this film premiered in July at the Clearlake Senior Center the crowd packed the hall and overflowed into the parking lot, for good reason -- if you missed it then, here's another opportunity to learn some details about Lake County’s long. and fascinating history. Although Peter Coyote can't join us this time, archeologist Dr. John Parker, Koi Nation Chair Dino Beltran, and representatives of the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association will all be on hand to talk about the Marsh, the native people who have lived there for thousands of years, and the events leading to its protection as a State Park. Please join us for what promises to be a most exciting evening: for more info, contact Chair Ed Robey at 994 8304 or edrobey@wildblue.net.

Cristallago: a Return from the Dead???

As many Lake Group members will recall, back in 2010 the county approved a massive residential/golf course/resort development just outside the Community Growth Boundaries northwest of Lakeport. Called “Cristallago,” this project was notable for flawed environmental review and General Plan conflicts so severe that the Sierra Club brought suit, culminating in a mutually agreeable settlement. Economic upheaval and a series of bankruptcies and foreclosures followed, and it was generally assumed that the project was dead—and not the first to have met that fate, or even the first on this particular site.

**Holiday Party
Friday Dec 11:
details inside!**

But not so fast! It turns out that in this case the obituary may have been premature. The original developers have resurrected a ghostly doppelganger, without the golf course and with a 292-acre vineyard and accompanying winemaking facilities. Obviously, despite a certain eery resemblance to Cristallago the First, this is a different project with different impacts that were not addressed in the previous Environmental Impact Report. Despite a request to move forward. under the previously authorized General Plan of Development, the county **(con’t)**

(Cristallago, con't) very reasonably requested agencies and the public to evaluate the current proposal and suggest a new set of environmental concerns. If a public scoping session is to be held it has not yet been announced.

Lake Group submitted formal comments in October, suggesting that the county require a new EIR for what is in many respects a new project, and pointing out altered impacts including air quality, hydrology, sensitive species and agriculture (among others). Since large-scale commercial agriculture is now being proposed on a site that has been zoned and designated for residential and resort use, land use and planning will also be affected.

We also recommend that anyone who has concerns or specialized knowledge about this proposal obtain a project description from the Community Development Department on the third floor of the Courthouse (255 N. Forbes in Lakeport), or by sending an email request to mireya.turner@lakecountyca.gov and join the discussion.

And do please stay tuned!

Let's Go Digital

Lake Group members are invited to help fight deforestation by receiving this bimonthly newsletter electronically rather than on paper. To get it as an email attachment in pdf format instead, send a request to join the "Lake Group Paper Free" list to vbrandon@lakelive.info—not only does this save some trees, it also benefits the Group financially.



Watershed Books
Lakeport, California

305 North Main Street
707.263.5787

CLEARLAKE VETERINARY CLINIC
3424 EMERSON ST CLEARLAKE, CA 95422



707-994-9100
M-F 7:00AM TO 7:00PM SAT 8:00AM TO 4:00PM EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE

Calendars!

Lake Group's supply of 2016 Sierra Club calendars has arrived, and they are gorgeous as always, full of spectacular nature photographs reminding us of the wonders we have to explore, enjoy, and protect. Both the wall and appointment versions are available at the discounted price of \$12. Calendar sales provide a very substantial part of the Group's extremely limited discretionary funding, and your purchases support most of our conservation activities throughout the year. To be sure of getting as many as you want, reserve in advance by sending an email to vbrandon@lakelive.info or calling Victoria at 994 1931. Calendars will also be available at the Lake Group meeting on November 18, at our annual holiday party on December 11, and at Watershed Books, 305 N. Main in Lakeport.



Fashionable Eyewear
Contact Lenses

Robert Bonner, O.D. **994-1488**

14595 Olympic Drive **Clearlake, CA 95422**

KONOCTI POST

www.konoctipost.blogspot.com

a lake county naturalist's blog

TAKE A RAMBLE. IT'S FREE.

We're having a party!

Lake Group's annual holiday party has been scheduled for 6PM on Friday December 11, at the Lower Lake Methodist Church Community Room, 16255 Second St in Lower Lake.

As always this festive event is completely FREE to Club members and their guests, and will be organized as a semi-potluck, with the Club providing the main dish. Guests should bring beverages and a side dish, salad or dessert to share as well as their own re-useable plates, glasses, and eating utensils.

RSVPs (please!) may be made by calling Ed at 994-8304 or sending an email to edrobey@wildblue.net.

Lake Group Executive Committee

Ed Robey (Chair, Treasurer, Political Chair): 994 8304, edrobey@wildblue.net

Cheri Holden (Vice Chair), 263 5787
cherisierraclub@gmail.com

Win Stiles (Secretary): 367-1593, win@w-s.com

Victoria Brandon (newsletter editor, webmaster):
994-1931, vbrandon@lakelive.info

Carolyn Ruttan, 295-0333,
caninoridge@digitalpath.net

Other contacts:

Steve Devoto (Outings): 279-8308,
sdevoto@mchsi.com

ExCom meetings are held at 7PM on the first Wednesday of every other month, at locations that vary. All members are cordially invited to attend, but requested to contact the Chair first to confirm time and location

Rent This Space

The Lake Group is now accepting (in other words, selling) advertisements in this newsletter: a two-inch (business card size) ad like this costs \$25 per issue, or—Great Bargain—\$100 for a year (six issues) To submit an ad send an email to vbrandon@lakelive.info or call Victoria at 994-1931.

Outings

At press time, Lake Group had no hikes scheduled. If any are planned later they will be posted to the Group website, sierraclub.org/redwood/lake. For outings elsewhere in Redwood Chapter, check the Outings tab at sierraclub.org/redwood.

Help Wanted: Outing Leaders. No experience needed, just a love for brisk exercise in the out-of-doors. There are many good reasons to become an Outing leader, including an opportunity for autocracy: as leader *you* get to choose where to go, and when. Interested? Get in touch with Outing Chair Steve Devoto at 279-8308 or sdevoto@mchsi.com.



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